

## Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 AID-20 PC-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 EUR-25 CU-05 DRC-01

/164 W

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R 270900Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3975

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0472

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SF, NI

SUBJECT: PROGRESSIVES CALL FOR DIALOGUE WITH BLACK AFRICA

REF: LAGOS 7045 (NOTAL)

1. RECENT TRIP TO NIGERIA AND OTHER BLACK AFRICAN COUNTRIES  
BY PROGRESSIVE PARTY MPS EGLIN AND VAN ZYL SLABBERT RECEIVED  
SIGNIFICANT AND FAVORABLE COVERAGE IN ENGLISH-SPEAKING MEDIA  
BUT WAS GENERALLY DENIGRATED OR IGNORED BY AFRIKAANS PRESS.

2. IN PARLIAMENTARY ADDRESS AUGUST 22, COLIN EGLIN DREW  
UPON IMPRESSIONS GAINED FROM TRIP AND URGED SAG TO LOOK  
BEYOND "BLUSTER" AND "EMOTIONALISM" OF BLACK POLITICAL  
RHETORIC TO ESTABLISH MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE WITH INCREASINGLY  
PRAGMATIC BLACK AFRICAN LEADERS. EGLIN ARGUED THAT SAG TOO  
OFTEN CONCENTRATES ON OAU REVOLUTIONARY STATEMENTS STRESSING  
UNITY OF BLACK AFRICA WHILE IGNORING REAL HETEROGENEITY OF  
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CONTINENT. SAG ALSO COMMITTING "FATAL ERROR" IN EQUATING

AFRICAN NATIONALISM OR ANTI-COLONIALISM WITH COMMUNISM.  
LATTER ONLY SERVES TO GIVE COMMUNISM AND UNDESERVED RESPECT-  
ABILITY IN EYES OF BLACK AFRICA.

3. ACCORDING TO EGLIN, "CLEARLY WHAT IS DESIRABLE IS GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT CONTACTS." DIALOGUE MUST BE BUILT UPON ATTITUDINAL CHANGES IN SA WHICH WILL ENCOURAGE WHITES TO VIEW SELVES AS "WHITE AFRICANS" AND NOT MISPLACED EUROPEANS. IN ADDITION TO ESTABLISHING SUCH AN IDENTITY, SAG MUST MAKE CLEAR ITS POLICY OF NON-INVOLVEMENT IN LINGERING COLONIAL PROBLEMS, I.E., PATS AND RHODESIA, AND SET TIMETABLE FOR SELF-DETERMINATION OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA. DIALOGUE WILL BEST BE FOSTERED BY GOVERNMENT ACTIONS IN SA SOCIETY DESIGNED NOT SIMPLY TO IMPROVE INTERNATIONAL IMAGE BUT TO EFFECT CHANGES WHICH ARE "ESSENTIAL IF WE WANT TO ENJOY GOODWILL, COOPERATION, LOYALTY OF BLACK AND BROWN CITIZENS OF SOUTH AFRICA."

4. EGLIN ARGUED IN RATHER MODERATE TONE THAT WHAT IS NEEDED IN SOUTH AFRICA IS "NOT A RADICAL RESTRUCTURING" OF SOCIETY BUT A CHANGE IN DIRECTION AND FIRM COMMITMENT TO RID NATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION. IN ADDITION TO APPLAUDING PM VORSTER'S MAY 29 STATEMENT OF SAG NON-INVOLVEMENT IN MOZAMBIQUE AFFAIRS, EGLIN ALSO PAID COMPLIMENT OF A SORT TO PM BY ACKNOWLEDGING THAT MANY BLACK AFRICANS HAVE "SNEAKING RESPECT" FOR VORSTER WHO IS ALLOWING "APARTHEID TO CRUMBLE IN AN ALMOST NATURAL WAY."

5. COMMENT: IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER MODERATE APPROACHES BY EGLIN WILL HELP HIM SUCCEED IN HIS AIM OF GETTING MESSAGE ACROSS TO SAG. AFTER TRIP EGLIN AND HELEN SUZMAN TOOK TO SEVERAL BLACK AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN 1971, VORSTER, WHO WAS FURIOUS AT WHAT HE SAW AS THEIR MEDDLING IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, GAVE INSTRUCTIONS THAT NO ONE IN SAG, ESPECIALLY DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WAS TO DISCUSS TRIP WITH EGLIN OR SUZMAN. HOWEVER, AFTER HIS SPEECH LAST WEEK, EGLIN WAS APPROACHED BY DEPMIN BANTU ADMINISTRATION PUNT JANSON, WHO COMPLIMENTED EGLIN ON SPEECH, ALTHOUGH STATING HE DISAGREED WITH SOME OF ITS POINTS. ENCOURAGED, EGLIN HAS TOLD US HE PLANS TO SEEK LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEETING WITH FONMIN MULLER OR OTHER DFA OFFICIALS TO RELATE IMPRESSIONS HE GAINED FROM HIS LATEST TRIP TO BLACK AFRICAN COUNTRIES.  
HURD

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, MEETINGS, PARTY LEADERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 AUG 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** martinml  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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